



THE S.O.H.O. NEWSLETTER

# REFLECTIONS

VOL. XII NO.6

JUNE 1980

P.O. BOX 3571 SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92103 (714)222-3148



## Help Pass National Heritage Act!

We need your help now! Historic Preservation is facing a crisis in Congress. The Congress is acting soon on the National Heritage Act and on Historic Preservation Fund Appropriations. Please write to your representatives in Congress supporting passage and funding of these important preservation matters.

Senators:

Alan Cranston  
S. I. Hayakawa  
Gary Hart

Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D. C. 20510

Congressmen:

Lionel Van Deerlin  
Clair Burgener  
Gunn McKay

House Office Bldg., Washington, D. C. 20515

The history of the United States of America is lodged in our land and landmarks -- in Yosemite, the Alamo, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Mount Vernon. Fortunately, we have had the foresight to save these irreplaceable parts of our nation's legacy. But thousands of other valuable areas and historic places are unprotected as yet. The National Heritage Act will protect the future of our great American Heritage -- IF IT IS PASSED. It will:

- \*Identify remaining natural, historic and cultural heritage resources.
- \*Protect the finest examples of our heritage.
- \*Cut costs for developers by providing easily accessible info on each state's significant resources.
- \*Reduce expensive development conflicts by identifying important natural and cultural sites early in the planning process.
- \*Promote citizen participation in all stages of heritage resource identification and protection.

Private lands will not be affected or condemned for there is no authorization for land acquisition in the Heritage Act. These programs will not be expensive as they will rely on existing sources of funding; they will head off expensive environmental battles which will not have to be fought; and they will conserve energy by stimulating a congenial atmosphere for adaptive reuse, saving precious building materials. The only way you can be effective is to be heard. Write TODAY and be instrumental in preserving our national heritage. We need this piece of legislation for future generations.

--Carole Frick

Wreckage from Penn Station, New York City, a building that never should have been destroyed. (Collection of The National Trust for Historic Preservation)



# NEWS BRIEFS



## HOUSE Available

Early La Jolla cottage to be relocated somewhere in La Jolla. Owner will share up to fourteen thousand in relocation expenses. Please call 459-8409 for further information.

## wild animal park CORRECTION

In the May Newsletter, the date for the Wild Animal Park Outing was July 18th. This HAS BEEN CHANGED TO JUNE 26. You can still reserve your place by sending a check for \$8.00 (made out to SOHO) to Joan Easley, 3147 Front Street, San Diego, CA 92103. If you are in a time crunch, call Joan at 295-6146 or Clare Crane at 454-5950. We're sure you'll have a wild and crazy time!

### GOV. BROWN SIGNS PRESERVATION DIRECTIVE

California Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr., signed an Executive Order protecting that state's "unique and irreplaceable" cultural resources March 6. The order directs all state agencies to take steps to preserve and maintain historic sites owned by the state that are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. It also says that state agencies should conduct inventories of "all significant historic and cultural sites, structures and objects under their jurisdiction."

In addition, Executive Order B-64-80 says that until the inventory is completed (by July 1, 1983), "state agencies shall assure that any property which might qualify for listing (in the National Register) is not inadvertently transferred or substantially altered." The state historic preservation officer is directed to advise and assist state agencies in their efforts. Knox Mellon, California SHPO, told *Preservation News*, "this kind of action goes a long way toward securing a statewide inventory of publicly owned buildings and sites as well as providing protection against inadvertent destruction."

--reprinted from May, 1980 *Preservation News*



### SOHO Newsletter REFLECTIONS



Editor  
Carole Collier Frick  
298-2237

Photographer  
Med Beauregard

SOHO OFFICERS 1979-1980

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Nicholas Fintzelberg  
Executive Vice-President

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Larry Ford  
Vice-President for  
Governmental Affairs

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Harry Evans  
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P.O. Box 3571  
San Diego, CA 92103

(714) 222-3148

The SOHO Newsletter is published monthly. Letters to the Editor are welcomed. Articles and/or photographs of interest to SOHO members and friends are most enthusiastically encouraged!



### CAROL'S CORNER

Why is it that those folk most deserving of public credit, loud shouts and cheers, often are missed by the media? And shame on the President of SOHO for not thinking ahead.

SOHO's first public service tour during National Preservation Week, on Friday, May 16th, was a wonderful success. We are only now beginning to see the results by comments from participants. This tour was our new approach to bringing historic preservation to our city and county leaders. We had representatives from the City, County, the Board of Supervisors, Coastal Commission, CON-VIS, planning departments, Historic Sites Board and others, and each participant was given a beautiful Tour Booklet, complete with photos, a comprehensive recap of preservation laws and policy, energy savings, a list of all local and nationally listed sites and complete section of the history of San Diego and those specific areas and buildings we took them to see.

Needless to say, this was a tremendous first-time undertaking for a small but select group of tour participants. And needless to say the fine article in the paper neglected to mention those most responsible for all the work!

Our special Thanks to Jan Kitchel, Tour Chairman, and Bruce Herms, Tour Route Coordinator, for a magnificent job. Also to be THANKED in capitals, Clare Crane, historian, Dr. Ray Brandes, historian and Middletown historic survey, Lucy Killea, Councilwoman and City coordinator, and Susan Taylor of her office.

Our guides were at their best, but Joe Jones, Larry Ford, Cathy Grigsby should have been mentioned, along with the credit given to Nick Fintzelberg, Bruce Dammann, Harry Evans. Mary Ward showed up in period costume as special greeter from the County for Heritage Park, and wrote material for the tour. Our Hostesses were neglected, although they did extra duty in helping with the reception at Britt House, so a big Thank You to Dorothy Griner, Barbara Klauschie and Mary Joralmon. And without the talents of Donna Regan and Matt Potter the historical information might never have been put together.

SO A SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU ALL FOR A MAGNIFICENT JOB!



The Pleasure of Your Company

Is Requested

at a

# NAUGHTY NINETIES PARTY

JUNE 13 5-8 PM

## BANK OF COMMERCE BLDG.

Historic Gaslamp Quarter  
835 Fifth Ave.

\$15.00 Single      \$25.00 Couple

Wine and Cheese

Musical Entertainment

Gaslamp Ladies

Art Display

Raffle Prizes

Benefitting  
the Balboa Park Defense Fund

RESERVATIONS REQUESTED:  
Send in the Coupon below,  
or Call 232-7196



\_\_\_\_\_ Please hold \_\_\_\_\_ reservations (\$15.00 single, \$25.00 couple).

\_\_\_\_\_ Sorry, I can't be with you, but here's my contribution!

Make checks payable to: BALBOA PARK DEFENSE FUND  
Send to: Committee for Charter Protection for Parks  
Donald Reeves, Treasurer  
835 Fifth Ave.  
San Diego, CA 92101



\_\_\_\_\_  
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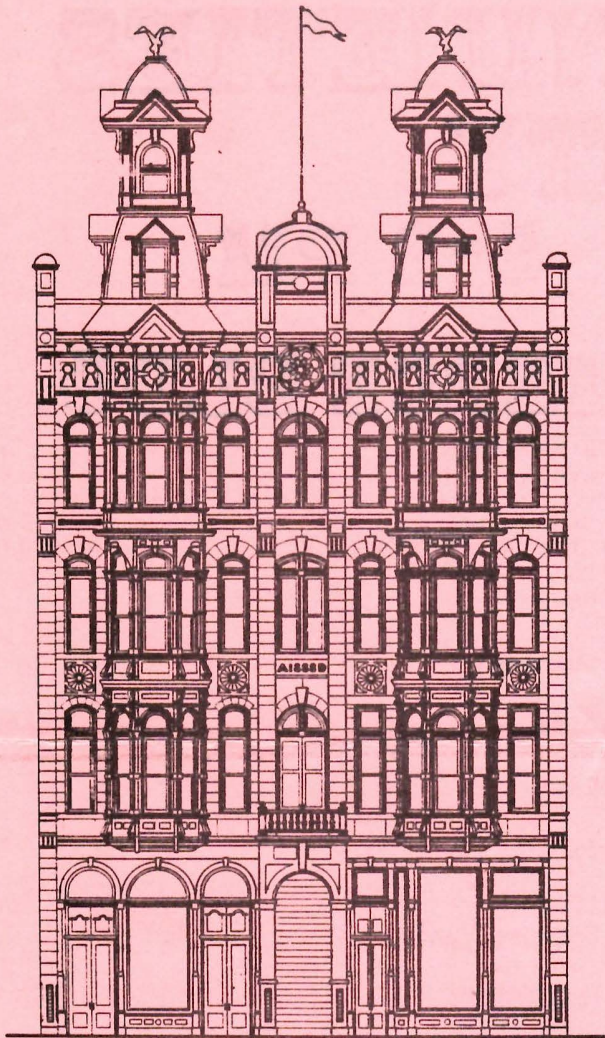
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Zip



# BANK OF COMMERCE BUILDING



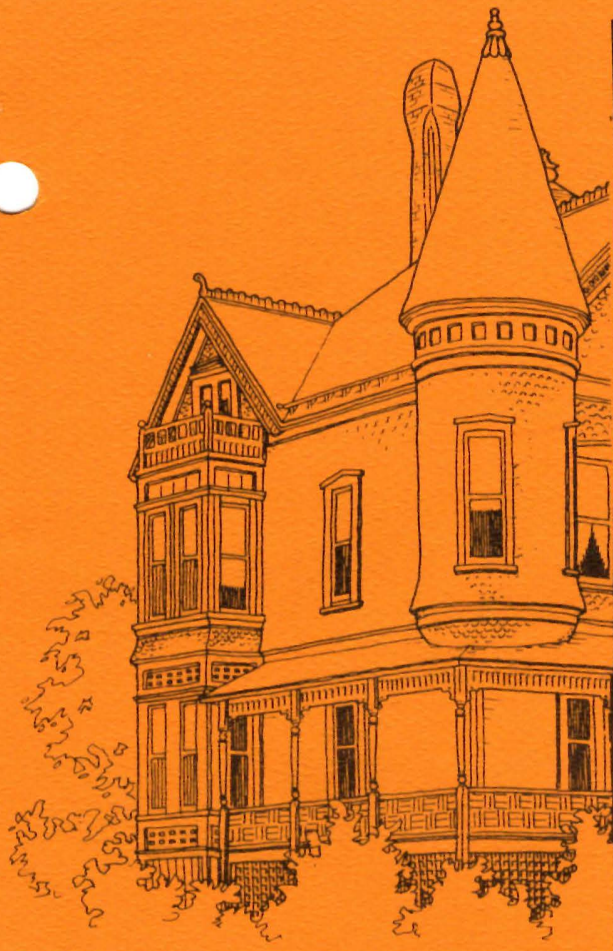
WEST ELEVATION

$\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'-0''$

THE BANK OF COMMERCE BUILDING, DESIGNED BY J. B. STANNARD WAS BUILT IN 1888, DURING THE SAN DIEGO BOOM YEARS. THIS FOUR-STORY COMMERCIAL FACADE EXEMPLIFIES THE RICHNESS OF APPLIED ORNAMENT IN THE ITALIAN BRACKETED STYLE WITHIN, A SKYLIGHTED SHAFT ALLOWED LIGHT TO PENETRATE TO THE SECOND LEVEL AS THE BUILDING HAD EXTERIOR EXPOSURE ON THE FRONT AND REAR SURFACES ONLY. THE SYMMETRICAL FACADE OF CUT STONE HAS TWO DECORATED FRAME BAY PROJECTIONS THE ELEGANCE OF THIS FACADE CONTRASTS SHARPLY WITH THE ROBUST ROMANESQUE-LIKE FACADE OF THE NESMITH-GREELY BUILDING (CAL-1971), ADJACENT TO IT.

THE TOWERS AND FIRST FLOOR HAVE BEEN RESTORED IN THIS ELEVATION BASED UPON EARLY PHOTOGRAPHS AND A DRAWING IN THE "GOLDEN ERA MAGAZINE", SEPTEMBER, 1889.





# Letters

To the Editor:

I have read your newsletter since becoming a member recently, and enjoyed hearing about all the peripheral activities of SOHO and other related organizations. However you have never indicated where you hold your meetings or when you hold them. Do you want contributing members to participate? Do you have bylaws? These and similar questions I would like to see addressed in your publication. I am sure many other contributing members would like answers to these questions also. It might stimulate additional interest and support for the organization! Give us the inside info! Thanks.

--Tom Dyke

# SOHO is a non-profit California Corporation, and holds General Meetings approximately every three to four months, always at a different historic locale. (In the past, we have met at the San Diego Hotel, at Heritage Park, at the San Diego Rowing Club, etc.) These General Meetings are always publicized well in advance in the Newsletter.

SOHO also has a Board of Directors Meeting every month on the first Monday evening of the month at 7:30 pm. These meetings are held at the homes of various board members and are open to the membership. For information concerning the location of meetings, members can call 222-3148.

The esoteric nature of the regular Board Meetings is not intentional. In a few months, SOHO will have an office in the Senlis Cottage at Heritage Park in Old Town. At this time, many meetings will be held there; members will have a place to come, the preservation library we have begun will be housed there; along with SOHO's scrapbooks, copies of our constitution, and other historic memorabilia. Without an office, SOHO has not had a physical place to call its own, which has made communication among members more difficult than we would like. Hopefully, by the end of the summer, this situation will be rectified.

RE: do we want participation by members. Is the Pope Polish? Call me at 298-2237. Cheers!

--Ed.

## FROM THE BOARD ROOM

Our last Board Meeting was concentrated around our offer to purchase the Matthew Sherman House on 19th near Island. Our Committee, including Nick, Harry, Sally Johns and Chuck Hellerick, met with property owners and our offer was not accepted. The committee will continue to try to keep negotiations open on this famous house.

Other reports included an update on the Senlis Cottage, which is now under way, and should be complete sometime in August. Cathy Grigsby and her committee are putting together a number of new tours to which SOHO members will be invited, including a September Train Tour.



## EXPLORING SAN DIEGO -- LECTURES AND FIELD TRIPS TO HISTORIC SITES SUMMER SESSION, 1980

### SAN DIEGO: SPANISH-MEXICAN ERA (1542-1850)

June 17 - August 5

Class meets Tuesday mornings, 9:30-12:30 for slide-lectures or field trips to historic locations, including Royal Presidio excavations, Serra Museum, Mission San Diego, Padre Dam, Old Town State Historic Park.

Lectures and field trips focus on Indian occupation of this area, Spanish exploration and colonization, and the Mexican Rancho era, up to the American conquest of California.

(Personal Growth E45; Master # 50320)

### SAN DIEGO: FROM GOLD RUSH TO THE PRESENT (1850-1970)

June 18 - August 6

Class meets Wednesday mornings, 9:30-12:30 for slide-lectures or field trips to historic locations, including Heritage Park, Villa Montezuma, Gaslamp Quarter, Embarcadero, Star of India, El Prado area in Balboa Park.

Lectures and field trips focus on development of San Diego through railroad boom of the 1880's, the Expositions of 1915 and 1935, postwar suburban sprawl, and current plans for downtown redevelopment.

(Personal Growth E45; Master # 50321)

These classes are sponsored by City College Off-Campus Programs and the College of the Emeriti. Register at first class meeting.

LOCATION: CEDAR COMMUNITY CENTER, 320 DATE ST., SAN DIEGO

Instructor: Dr. Clare Crane

No tuition charge. Admission fees for some field trips.





# MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please complete and return this membership form to:  
 Save Our Heritage Organisation  
 Post Office Box 3571  
 San Diego, California 92103

SOHO depends upon membership dues, contributions, and fund raising activities to support our restoration/preservation expenses. Members receive the monthly SOHO Newsletter and invitations to special events. Gift memberships are available and we will send the recipient a card in your name announcing the gift. Memberships and donations are tax deductible. Please join us!

### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

Benefactor . . . . .	\$1,000.
Patron . . . . .	\$100.
Corporate . . . . .	\$50.
Professional . . . . .	\$25.
Family . . . . .	\$15.
Single . . . . .	\$10.
Donation . . . . .	\$ _____

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Add my name to your Volunteer List \_\_\_\_\_  
 I prefer the following types of activities: \_\_\_\_\_

### TAX EXEMPT STATUS

SOHO is exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and has been classified by the I.R.S. as a charitable, educational organization.



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